The Text-Book Committee and Prescription of Books.

161. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what is the function of the Text-Book Committee; and

(*b*) whether the Director is competent to recommend, as Text-Books, books not approved by the Text-Book Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) (i) To take into consideration such books as may be submitted to it by the Director and to advise him in regard to the suitability of the text-books for the several Classes and Forms in recognised schools, for school libraries and for teachers' use; and

(ii) to advise the Education Department as to the steps to be taken for the preparation and publication of new text-books, when necessary.

(*b*) No.

Prescription of Text-Books from outside the approved list.

169. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state whether there are not instances in the list of prescribed books for 1934-35, in which the Director has recommended prescription of books from outside the approved list?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): No.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether the Arabic text-books prescribed for Mahomedan schools have been approved by the Text-Book Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Does the member refer to the Arabic text-books prescribed for the examination classes?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Yes.

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Those books have not been approved by the Text-Book committee.

Prescription of Text-Books in English.

170. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state whether the Headmasters are given permission to choose any English book out of the approved list?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, as laid down in Rule 30 of the Text-Book Committee Rules, dated the 15th December 1933.

Hardships caused by lack of uniformity in the use of Text-Books.

171. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state what measures the Director has taken

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